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INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES—January, 2006 (Base: January, 2003 = 100)

The following Memorandum on the Index of Retail Prices is published for general information.

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Acting Director of Statistics

GENERAL INDEX

The All Items Index of Retail Prices calculated from prices collected for the month of January, 2006 was 117.1 representing an increase of 0.4 points or 0.3% over the Index for December, 2005.

The percentage change in the All Items Index of January, 2006 when compared with January, 2005 was 7.0%.

SECTION INDICES

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

The Index for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased from 166.7 in December, 2005 to 166.3 in January, 2006, a decrease of 0.2%. Contributing significantly to this decrease was a general fall in the prices of whole chicken, red fish, oranges, tomatoes, pumpkin, melongene, cucumber, ochroes, green pigeon peas, cabbage, lettuce, watercress, chive, hot peppers and christophene. Partly offsetting these decreases were general price increases in king fish, carite, shrimp, pawpaw, limes, yams, dasheen, sweet potatoes, green bananas, celery and coconut water.

Price changes in this section for the month of January, 2006, accounted for a net overall decrease of 0.1 point in the All Items Index.

OTHER SECTIONS

A further review of the data for January, 2006 compared with December, 2005 indicated increases in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, 1.7%; Clothing and Footwear, 0.3%; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, 0.5%; Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House, 1.2%; Health, 1.6%; Transport 0.1%; Recreation and Culture, 4.0%; Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants, 2.4%; and Miscellaneous, 0.1%. However, a general price decrease was noted for Communication, 10.2%, owing to the fall in mobile telephone rates.

Price changes in these sections, for the month of January, 2006, accounted for a net overall increase of 0.5 point in the All Items Index.

Growth in consumer prices in January, 2006, compared with those of January, 2005 reflected in various sections of the Index is shown hereunder:

Sections	Percentage Change January, 2005—January, 2006
All Items	7.0
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	22.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	4.4
Clothing and Footwear	-0.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.4
Home Ownership	1.3
Rent	3.4
Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.6
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	2.2
Health	6.5
Transport	1.3
Communication	-10.2
Recreation and Culture	8.8
Education	14.9
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	6.5
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.2

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PETER PARIAG
Director of Statistics

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES
(Base: January, 2003 = 100)

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GENERAL INDEX AND SECTION INDICES
Figures for January, 2006

Period	Section Indices															
	All Items Jan 2003 = 100	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing (Wider, Heavily Weighted Other Items)			Furnishings, Household Repairs and Routine Maintenance of the House	Health	Tourism	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	
Weights	100	25	55	282	180	24	58	54	51	187	41	85	18	30	58	
Annual Average																
2003	101.5	108.4	59.8	58.8	100.5	101.2	100.3	100.8	101.3	100.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.4	100.4
2004	105.7	122.3	102.8	58.4	103.2	103.4	101.7	100.1	103.8	105.3	58.5	100.5	103.1	104.1	100.5	100.5
2005	112.5	150.4	108.3	51.8	105.8	106.2	102.3	100.9	108.1	108.3	87.4	108.3	105.1	110.4	103.0	103.0
2004 January	103.3	114.5	100.8	54.5	101.0	104.8	100.8	100.2	102.5	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.5	100.5
February	103.4	114.8	101.5	54.7	101.1	104.8	101.4	100.2	102.7	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.5	100.5
March	104.3	115.4	102.0	54.4	101.2	104.8	102.0	100.2	102.6	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	101.5	100.5	100.5
April	104.3	118.4	102.2	54.4	102.9	108.0	101.7	56.9	103.0	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	104.8	100.3	100.3
May	104.5	119.5	102.3	54.3	102.8	108.0	101.4	56.9	103.2	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	104.8	100.3	100.3
June	105.2	121.7	102.4	53.8	102.8	108.2	101.4	56.9	103.2	103.7	58.1	100.1	103.0	104.8	100.3	100.3
July	105.8	121.1	102.5	53.3	102.8	108.2	102.0	56.8	103.8	103.5	58.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.5	100.5
August	108.1	122.7	103.0	53.1	103.9	104.2	108.2	56.8	104.1	105.9	58.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.5	100.5
September	108.7	125.8	103.7	53.3	103.9	104.2	101.9	56.8	104.3	105.9	58.1	100.7	103.0	104.7	100.5	100.5
October	107.5	127.9	104.3	52.8	105.1	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.2	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.8	108.0	101.3	101.3
November	108.1	131.8	104.4	51.4	105.1	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.8	108.0	101.3	101.3
December	108.5	138.0	104.0	51.0	105.1	107.2	101.8	100.7	105.3	107.7	87.4	101.1	103.8	108.0	101.3	101.3
2005 January	105.4	135.4	105.1	51.8	105.4	110.2	101.8	100.8	105.4	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
February	110.5	141.5	105.8	51.5	105.4	110.2	101.8	100.8	105.6	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
March	111.2	144.9	105.8	50.0	105.8	108.0	102.5	100.5	105.7	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
April	111.8	145.0	105.8	50.1	105.8	109.1	102.4	100.5	105.8	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
May	111.7	145.5	105.8	50.5	105.8	109.5	102.5	100.5	105.8	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
June	112.1	147.8	108.1	51.8	105.7	109.5	102.5	100.5	105.8	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
July	113.5	151.8	108.2	51.4	105.8	111.5	102.5	100.5	105.8	107.7	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
August	113.8	153.0	108.5	50.0	105.8	112.7	102.4	101.0	105.9	108.1	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
September	114.1	154.9	108.5	50.1	105.8	112.7	102.4	101.0	105.9	108.1	87.4	105.1	103.9	108.4	101.7	101.7
October	114.8	158.4	108.8	50.4	105.8	113.2	102.4	101.8	105.9	109.0	87.4	105.0	103.8	108.7	101.7	101.7
November	115.7	161.8	107.2	51.8	106.4	113.2	102.4	101.8	105.9	109.0	87.4	105.0	103.8	108.7	101.7	101.7
December	118.7	168.7	107.9	51.3	106.4	113.2	102.4	101.8	105.9	109.0	87.4	105.0	103.8	108.7	101.7	101.7
2006 January	117.1	168.3	105.7	51.8	107.4	114.0	102.4	102.8	112.2	109.1	78.5	104.4	104.7	115.4	103.5	103.5

NOTE: To link the previous or old base (September 1993 = 100) to the new base (January 2003 = 100), at the All Items level, multiply the All Items Index of the new base by 1.505.